

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MASERU 00387 091044 Z

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CPR-02 SS-15 NSC-10 CIAE-00 INR-10

NSAE-00 RSC-01 /057 W

----- 016142

R 090703 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3083

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, LT

SUBJ: RUMORED GOVERNMENT CHANGES

REF : STATE 62252

1. GOL BEING VERY CAGY RE MASHOLOGU. ONLY INKLING WAS COMMENT BY PM IN MEETING WITH FOLEY AND CHARGE THAT MASHOLOGU VERY TALENTED AND " WE NEED HIM HERE."

2. EMBASSY'S BEST GUESS RE HIS SUCCESSOR WOULD BE PRESENT PERMSEC FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS, PHILLIP MABATHOANA, WHO ATTENDED UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY SESSION LAST YEAR AND HAS SERVED AS HIGH COMMISSIONER TO NAIROBI. IN CASUAL CONVERSATION WITH EMBASSY OFFICER A FEW DAYS AGO MRS MABATHOANA ALLOWED AS SHE WOULD NOT MIND GOING TO WASHINGTON.

3. OTHER RUMORED CHANGES WHICH HAVE COME TO EMBASSY'S ATTENTION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

A. PERMSEC FOR EDUCATION JOEL MOITSE WILL REPLACE EXPATRIATE PRO- VICE CHANCELLOR NOON AT UBLS.

B. WITH TERMINATION UK BUDGETARY AID TO LESOTHO, EXPATRIATE PERMSEC FOR FINANCE TED WEDDINGTON AND DEPUTY SENIOR PERMSEC TO

CABINET D. J. -. BRIGGS MAY BE RETIRED. HMG HAD INSISTED ON
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PAGE 02 MASERU 00387 091044 Z

NAMING INDIVIDUALS FOR THOSE POSTS WHILE IT CONTINUED TO PROVIDE BUDGETARY AID.

C. LONG- RANGE CHANGES EXPECTED IN JUDICIARY MAY INVOLVE NAMING OF SENIOR PERMSEC TO CABINET JOAS MAPETLA AS PUISNE JUDGE REPLACING EXPATRIATE WHO SCHEDULED DEPART IN MAY (MASERU A-17).

C. LNDC MANAGING DIRECTOR WYNAND VAN GRAAN IS SCHEDULED LEAVE POST IN JULY OPENING UP POSITION TO MOSOTHO OR ANOTHER EXPAT. ONE INDIVIDUAL MENTIONED AS POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR IS HIGH COMMIS- SIONER TO NAIROBI J. R. L. KOTSOKOANE.

4. IF MAPETLA DOES LEAVE HIS POST, MASHOLOGU MIGHT BE LOGICAL SUCCESSOR. IF MABATHOANA GOES TO WASHINGTON, MASHOLOGU COULD REPLACE HIM AT FOREIGN AFFAIRS.
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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